



THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1963

CRANBROOK RURAL DISTRICT

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(Constitution at 31st December, 1963)

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Cranbrook Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of
Cranbrook Rural District for the year 1963.

The population at mid-year 1963 as estimated by the Registrar-General was 15,600 compared with 15,230 in 1962. The total number of births registered during the year was 248 (131 males and 117 females). The corrected birthrate per 1,000 population was 18.2 the birthrate for England and Wales being 18.2. The corresponding figures for 1962 were 14.1 and 18.0 respectively.

The number of deaths recorded during the year was 211 (124 males and 87 females). The corrected death rate for the Rural District was 10.0 compared with the death rate for England and Wales of 12.2. The corresponding figures last year were 10.4 and 11.9.

Deaths from cancer numbered 27 of which eight were from cancer of the lung. This is a decrease of ten in the number of deaths from all forms but one more in the deaths of cancer of the lung.

Five infants died under the age of one year, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 20.2 per thousand live births compared with the rate of 20.9 for England and Wales.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 218 compared with 113 cases the previous year, and of the total number recorded 172 were cases of Measles. Twenty cases of Whooping Cough occurred and twenty cases of Dysentery and four of Food Poisoning were notified during the year. The prevention of these two latter illnesses mainly depends on a high standard of hand cleanliness at all times particularly when food is being handled.

No cases of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis were reported during 1963, in fact it is many years since any Diphtheria cases have been notified in the Rural District, while the gradual disappearance of Poliomyelitis from the community is most encouraging. There can be little doubt that prophylactic immunisation measures have been responsible for the continued reduction in the incidence of these diseases. The Table on Page 13 shows the number of children and other persons who received a course of injections, or doses of oral vaccine in the Rural District during the year.

Information regarding the number of persons receiving inoculations against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and Smallpox vaccinations appear in the Table set out on Pages 12 and 14 of this Report. These details have been supplied by the County Medical Officer to whom I offer my thanks.

Two cases of Tuberculosis were notified, one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary. There was one death from this disease giving a death rate of .06 per thousand of the population.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council, particularly the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and the Chief Officers for their support throughout the year, also the staff of the Health Department for their helpful co-operation and loyal assistance during 1963.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P.A. CROWLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

AREA:	41,315 acres.
POPULATION:	15,600 (R.G's Estimate 1963) - 14,167 (R.G's Census figure 1961)
DENSITY OF POPULATION:	i.e. number of persons per acre: 0.37
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:	4,792
NUMBER OF PERSONS PER INHABITED HOUSE:	3.3
RATEABLE VALUE: 1963:	£324,192
SUM PRODUCED BY A PENNY RATE 1962/63:	£677

BIRTHS

Live Births (Registered)				<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	226	117	109
Illegitimate	...	...	...	22	14	8
				<u>248</u>		
Birth Rate per 1,000 population:					15.9	
Corresponding Rate for 1962:					14.1	
Corrected Birth Rate:					18.2	
Birth Rate for England and Wales:					18.2	
Stillbirths:				<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
				<u>3</u>		
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 births:					12.1	
Corresponding Rate 1962:					14.0	
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales:					17.3	

DEATHS

MALES: 87, FEMALES: 124. TOTAL: 211

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population: 13.5

Corresponding Rate for 1962: 12.7

Standardised Death Rate: 10.0

Death Rate for England and Wales: 12.2

Number of women dying in, or in consequence
of childbirth ... Nil

Maternal mortality per 1,000 total
registered births ... Nil

Total number of deaths from:	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Cancer (all ages) ...	37	27
Measles (all ages) ...	-	-
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	-	-

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year of age:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate ...	5	3	2
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-

Deaths of infants under one year of age
per 1,000 live births: 20.2

Corresponding Rate for 1962: 18.7

Infant Mortality for England and Wales: 20.9

Table No. 1

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF CAUSES OF DEATHS DURING
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1963

NO.	CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	-	8
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	15
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-	1
16	Diabetes	-	-	-
17	Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	7	31	38
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	14	16	30
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	2	4
20	Other Heart Disease	11	14	25
21	Other Circulatory disease	9	3	12
22	Influenza	-	10	10
23	Pneumonia	5	10	15
24	Bronchitis	4	8	12
25	Other disease of respiratory system	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	3	4
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	7	13
33	Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
34	All other accidents	2	2	4
35	Suicide	1	-	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	Total all causes	87	124	211

Table No. 2

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN
THE VARIOUS PARISHES

	Measles	Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Sonne Dysentery	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Total
BENENDEN	5	-	4	-	-	-	9
CRANBROOK (including Sissinghurst)	30	-	-	-	-	-	30
FRITTENDEN	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
GOUDHURST (including Kilndown)	40	-	-	-	-	-	40
HAWKHURST	38	-	-	20	19	1	78
SANDHURST	52	1	-	-	1	-	54
TOTAL:	172	1	4	20	20	1	218

Table No. 3

SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
MEASLES	3	24	32	47	19	14	17	16	-	-	-	-	172
WHOOPIG COUGH	8	2	-	-	-	-	6	3	1	-	-	-	20
FOOD POISONING	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
DYSENTERY	-	-	13	5	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	20
PNEUMONIA	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL:	11	30	46	52	20	14	24	19	1	1	-	-	218

Table No. 4

AGES, ETC., OF CASES OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	TOTAL CASES (all ages)	Under 1 yr.	1 yr	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths (inhabi- tants only)
Acute Anterior Polio- myelitis:												
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	20	2	3	2	1	1	4	-	7	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	172	1	9	5	14	11	70	24	32	6	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peripneumonia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	20	-	1	-	1	1	14	-	-	3	-	-
TOTAL:	218	3	13	8	16	13	88	24	40	13	-	-

Table No. 5

TUBERCULOSISTABLE SHOWING NEW CASES, RECOVERIES AND DEATHSIN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS

	New Cases		Recoveries		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
Under 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 weeks and under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 "	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 "	-	-	2	-	-	-
45 - 54 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 "	1	-	-	-	1	-
65 - 74 "	-	-	-	-	1	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	1	1	2	-	2	-

Table No. 6

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1963 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary
1963	73	Nil	73
1962	105	2	105
1961	15	57	15
1960	4	25	4
1959	Nil	4	Nil
1954-1958	11	73	10
1949-1953	3	2	3
Total	211	163	210

Table No. 7

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1963 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year	2 Injections (Salk)	3rd Dose (Salk and Oral)	4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
			120	
1963	-	1	-	19
1962	-	12	-	110
1961	-	18	-	30
1957-1960	-	11	-	12
1943-1956	1	6	-	15
1933-1942	-	6	-	13
Others	-	10	-	12

Table No. 8

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

In view of the amendment to the County Council's Proposals approved as from the 1st January, 1963, the following is the only information now available.

PRIMARY VACCINATION 1 YEAR	RE-VACCINATION SCHOOL AGE BUT UNDER 8 YEARS
39	1

Table No.9

NURSING HOMES

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided for:-		
		Maternity	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during the year	-	-	-	-
Homes whose registrations were withdrawn during the year	-	-	-	-
Homes on the register at the end of the year	1	-	8	8
Homes exempt from registration at the end of the year	1	-	162	162

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

As in previous years the Kent County Council Ambulance Service served the needs of the district from the Ambulance Station at the Vestry Hall, Cranbrook.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

Two hundred and thirty-nine certificates requiring the signature of the doctor authenticated were dealt with during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

I have pleasure in submitting herewith report of the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during 1963, together with details of the sanitary circumstances of the district.

G. Longley.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES:

The district is well served by the mains of the Mid Kent Water Company, and the supply, other than that in the parish of Frittenden, is drawn from wells and bores in the Ashford Sand formation at Goudhurst, where it is treated to remove iron and manganese. During the year the Company laid a total of 2,691 yards of mains as follows:-

3 ins. - 523 yards : 4 ins. - 128 yards : 6 ins. - 2,040 yards.

Samples collected during the year were as follows:-

	Bact. Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No. of Samples	satisfactory	not satisfactory	No. of Samples	satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Water Co's. mains	15	14	1	-	-	-
Private supplies piped to dwellings	3	2	1	-	-	-
Other supplies	8	1	7	-	-	-

The number of dwellings supplied from public water mains in each parish is given below. The approximate percentage of houses supplied by public water mains or other adequate supplies is 98.4%.

	<u>With Piped Supply</u>	<u>Supplied by Standpipe</u>
Benenden	564	-
Cranbrook	1,717	-
Frittenden	253	-
Goudhurst	898	-
Hawkhurst	1,326	-
Sandhurst	355	-
	<hr/>	
	5,113	
	<hr/>	

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS:

There are no public swimming baths within the district.

SEWERAGE:

The sewerage of Stream Lane, Hawkhurst, was completed during the year and work on the new cold digestion tank at the Southern Sewage Works was nearing completion.

Regarding the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal works at Iden Green, Benenden, the necessary investigation of the scheme by an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government has been arranged for early 1964.

Work on the details of the enlargement of the Cranbrook Sewage Works has been held up pending the preparation by the County Council of the Town Map for Cranbrook.

HOUSING:

During the year 88 houses have been erected, 11 by the Council and 77 by private enterprise. In addition 6 new dwellings have been provided by conversion.

Discretionary Grants for improvements or conversions have been agreed for 15 houses. Standard Grants have been agreed for 50 houses.

Eight individual houses were represented to the Council as being unfit and incapable of repair at a reasonable cost, in three cases Demolition Orders were made, and in the other five cases Undertakings were given by the Owners as to their future use.

The following tables give a summary of quarterly returns made in respect of housing work:-

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Table No. 10

A. Houses Demolished

In Clearance Areas	Houses demolished	Displaced during the year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	-	4	4
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17(1) Housing Act 1957	2	-	-
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action taken under Local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in unfitness Orders	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses closed

	No.	Displaced during the year	
		Persons	Families
(8) Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957	3	5	3
(9) Under Secs. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18 Housing Act 1957	-	-	-

C. Unfit Housing made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

	By Owner	By local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority	94	-
(12) After formal action under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	2	-
(b) Secs. 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	-	-
(13) Under Sec. 24 Housing Act 1957	-	-

D. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act 1957)

	No. of Houses	No. of separate dwellings
(14) Retained for Temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Sec. 48	-	-
(b) Under Sec. 17(2)	-	-
(c) Under Sec. 46	-	-
(15) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sec. 34 or 53	-	-

E. Purchase of Houses by Agreement

	No. of Houses	No. of Occupiers
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas, other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year	-	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:

The total number of Food premises in the area is classified as follows :-

Bakehouses	7
Ice Cream manufacturers	-
Dairies	2
Butchers	13
Sausage manufacturers	12
Restaurants and cafes	25
Grocers	38
Confectioners	27
Greengrocers	5
Fish Shops	5
Licensed Premises	27
	<u>161</u>

Number of visits to food premises
(Other than slaughterhouses) 245

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The number of premises registered under Section 16 is as follows:-

Premises used for sausage making	12
Premises used for manufacture of ice cream	-
Premises used for sale and storage of ice cream	62
Number of inspections of these premises	117

Milk Supply

Number of distributors of milk in the district	19
Number of Dairies (excluding farms)	2
Number of shops selling bottled milk	17

Ice Cream.

There is no manufacture of ice cream in the district. Sixty-two premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and supplies are obtained mainly from four large manufacturers with nation wide sales.

Meat and Other Foods.

Two slaughterhouses were licensed during the year.

The slaughtering in the district is normally carried out at regular times, and all animals killed are inspected.

The following table gives particulars of the work of the slaughter-houses and the results of inspection :-

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

TABLE OF CARCASSES INSPECTED AND FOUND UNFIT

Table No. 11.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	74	-	12	311	115	-
Number inspected	74	-	12	311	115	-
All diseases except Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci :- Whole carcasses found unfit	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit ..	-	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ..	-	-	-	0.3	3.5	-
Tuberculosis only :- Whole carcasses found unfit	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit ..	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.9	-
Cysticercosis:- Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally unfit	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total weight of unsound food surrendered during the year was :-

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>qtrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Tinned foods	2	3	27
Meat		3	26
	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

HOP PICKERS' CAMPS.

The usual inspections of hop-pickers camps were made. The number of picking machines in use continues to increase with a resultant reduction in the number of pickers, especially of those from outside the rural district. Consequently, hop-picking is no longer the Public Health problem that it used to be. No cases of infectious diseases were notified from the encampments during the season. Fifty-five encampments were in use.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

The following are particulars of the inspections made and work carried out by the Rodent Operator :-

	<u>Rats.</u>	<u>Mice.</u>
Number of complaints received	18	5
Number of premises infested	17	5
Number of infestations found as a result of routine enquiries	36	13
Number of premises disinfested :-		
(a) dwellings and schools	10	2
(b) Council properties (sewerage works, refuse tips etc.)	11	--
(c) Food premises	--	--
(d) Other premises	--	--
Total number of visits	48	8

ERADICATION OF INSECT PESTS.

Details of action carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors, for dealing with insect pests, are as follows :-

Premises disinfested	-	6
Visits	-	12

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

The following information is given regarding inspections of factories :-

Table No. 12.

1. Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	10	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	50	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	45	93	-	-
Total	131	153	2	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total ..	2	1	-	1	-

Summary of Inspections etc. carried out during the year :

								<u>Number</u>
Visits to	Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
"	"	Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	66
"	"	Dairies ..	..	..	..	..	..	11
"	"	Ice cream premises	..	..	..	..	..	51
"	"	Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	31
"	"	Restaurants and kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	54
"	"	Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	115
"	"	Other food premises	..	..	..	..	..	43
"	"	Theatres, Cinemas etc.	..	..	..	..	..	9
Visits to	Baths	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
"	"	Moveable dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	42
"	"	Factories	..	..	..	..	..	153
"	"	Stables ..	..	..	..	..	..	-
"	"	Streams and ponds	..	..	..	..	..	7
"	"	Verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	2
Visits re	Infectious diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
"	"	Insects and various pests	..	..	..	..	..	29
"	"	Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	8
"	"	Offensive trades	..	..	..	..	..	-
"	"	Overcrowding ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
"	"	Rat/Mice Infestation	..	..	..	..	..	47
"	"	Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	12
"	"	Smoke Nuisance ..	..	..	..	..	..	20
"	"	Water supply	..	..	..	..	..	21
"	"	Hop-pickers' Camps	..	..	..	..	..	109
Houses disinfested	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
"	disinfested	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Smoke tests to drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Water tests to drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Informal notices served on houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Houses rendered fit in consequence of Informal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94
Formal notices served re houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
"	"	complied with by owner	..	..	..	..	..	22
"	"	" " " occupier	..	..	..	..	..	-
"	"	" " " Local Authority in default	..	..	..	..	..	-

Table No. 13.

RAINFALL

The monthly figures for rainfall recorded at the Council's
Sewage Works at Cranbrook are set out below :-

					Rainfall	No. of days on which a measurable quantity fell
January	..	..	..	..	0.74	9
February	..	..	..	..	0.67	11
March	..	..	..	..	3.92	19
April	..	..	..	..	3.24	14
May	..	..	..	..	2.37	16
June	..	..	..	..	2.88	16
July	..	..	..	..	1.05	9
August	..	..	..	..	2.66	15
September	..	..	..	..	2.32	14
October	..	..	..	..	1.84	12
November	..	..	..	..	7.53	22
December	..	..	..	..	1.42	8
Total :					30.64	165

